

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 5 and 8 are amended by the present amendment. Support for the amended claims can be found in the original specification, claims and drawings.¹ No new matter is presented.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-5 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Shoff et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,240,555, herein Shoff) in view of Tarbouriech et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,650,877, herein Tarbouriech) and Tomsen (U.S. Pub. 2002/0013950); and Claims 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Shoff in view of Tarbouriech, Tomsen and Hrastar et al. (U.S. Pub. 2008/0046951, herein Hrastar).

In response to the above noted rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claims 1, 5 and 8 recite novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by the applied references.

Amended independent Claim 1, for example, recites a data-processing apparatus configured to receive a broadcast signal and be connected to a network on which broadcast stations disclose content-related information related to broadcast contents, comprising:

receiving means for receiving the broadcast signal of a prescribed frequency assigned to each of the broadcast stations ...

setting means for setting a frequency for the broadcast signal that can be received and for recording frequency information about the frequency set, in a predetermined recording medium;

communications control means for acquiring the content-related information through the network by transmitting a request including broadcast station ID data identifying the broadcast station from which the broadcast signal is received by the receiving means, said content-related information including information corresponding to the broadcast signal identified in the request and ***information corresponding to a different broadcast station than the broadcast station identified in the request ...***

¹ e.g., at least Fig. 7 and paragraphs [0128] – [0137] of the publication (Pub. 2007/0006272) of the originally filed disclosure.

Independent Claims 5 and 8, while directed to alternative embodiments, are amended to recite similar features as those emphasized above.

As disclosed in an exemplary embodiment at Fig. 7 and paragraphs [0128] – [0137] of the publication (U.S. Pub. 2007/0006272) of the originally filed disclosure, a user may request additional information regarding a broadcast by transmitting a broadcast station ID (e.g., call sign or frequency) to a server. The server responds by transmitting additional information about the content of the broadcast itself, but also provides additional information about broadcast stations in “Other Areas”, for example, that may be of interest to the user. This provides an advantage to the user in that the user may want to switch to another broadcast station available over the network connection, for example, to listen to an alternative broadcast station of which they were not previously aware.

At p. 3, the Office Action concedes that the primary reference, Shoff, fails to disclose “... said content-related information including information broadcast by a different broadcast station.” In an attempt to remedy this deficiency, the Office Action relies on Tarbouriech and asserts that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the cited references to arrive at the above noted claimed feature.

In rejecting the features directed to the “communications control means”, the Office Action relies on Fig. 4 and col. 20, l. 57 – col. 21, l. 5 of Tarbouriech, noting that “the listener’s station selection determines the related output”. Particularly, these cited portions of Tarbouriech describe the use of a hand-held computer 210 having a touch-activated screen 212 that displays a plurality of buttons 214, each corresponding to a particular listener’s preferred radio station. Tarbouriech further describes that when the user desires more information about a particular broadcast, she simply touches the preprogrammed buttons 214 corresponding to the radio station to which the radio receiver is tuned. The hand-held

computer 210 then stores the selection and the time it was selected, and retrieves the additional information about the particular broadcast on the radio station to which the radio receiver is tuned.

Thus, in Tarbouriech, the acquired content information is specifically related to a broadcast received from a station to which the hand-held computer 210 is currently tuned, and does not relate to “***a different broadcast station than the broadcast station identified in the request***”. More particularly, Tarbouriech fails to teach or suggest “acquiring the content-related information through the network by transmitting a request ***including broadcast station ID data identifying the broadcast station from which the broadcast signal is received*** ... said content-related information including ... ***information corresponding to a different broadcast station than the broadcast station identified in the request***”, as claimed.

As noted above, an advantage to the claimed configuration is that a user who submits a request for additional information about a broadcast is then provided with a list of additional broadcast stations in other areas that may be of interest to the user. Tarbouriech, on the other hand, merely describes a process of tagging specific broadcasts that the user is currently listening to, and when the hand-held computer 210 has an opportunity to be “synchronized” with another computer, additional information regarding the broadcast may be obtained. Thus, in Tarbouriech, the additional information is clearly related only to a “particular broadcast” of interest of a user, and does not provide additional information regarding broadcast stations not currently apparent (e.g., available) to a user, as claimed.

Moreover, Tomsen fails to remedy the above noted deficiencies of Shoff and Tarbouriech. Therefore, the applied references, neither alone, nor in combination, teach or suggest a data-processing apparatus configured to receive a broadcast signal and be connected to a network on which broadcast stations disclose content-related information related to broadcast contents that “... acquir[es] the content-related information through the

network by transmitting a request including broadcast station ID data identifying the broadcast station from which the broadcast signal is received ..., said content-related information including information corresponding to the broadcast signal identified in the request and *information corresponding to a different broadcast station than the broadcast station identified in the request*’, as recited in amended independent Claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 1 (and Claims 2-4 and 9, which depend therefrom) under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn. For substantially similar reasons, it is also submitted that independent Claims 5 (and Claim 10 that depend therefrom) and 8 patentably define over Shoff, Tarbouriech and Tomsen.

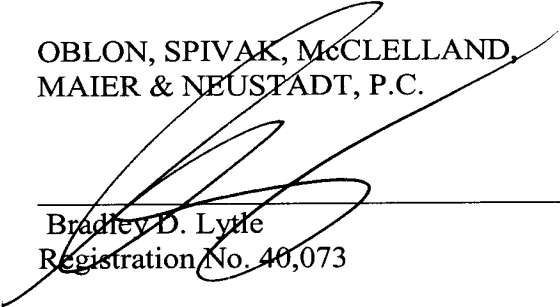
Regarding the rejection of Claims 6-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Shoff in view of Tarbouriech, Tomsen and Hrastar, Applicants note that Claims 6-7 depend from Claim 5 and are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that Hrastar fails to remedy the above noted deficiencies of Shoff, Tarbouriech and Tomsen.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 6-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 1-10 patentably distinguishes over the applied references. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early indication to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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